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Level 3 – 20th October, 2022

K-pop stars BTS to do military service

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221020-bts-military-service.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221020-bts-military-service.html>

Members of one of the world's most popular pop bands will soon be in the army. The South Korean boy band BTS will soon be taking a break from music. The seven band members will be joining the military to do two years of national service. South Korea is one of the few countries in the world to require men to do military service. All able-bodied men aged between 18 and 28 must serve about two years in the military. This is because technically, South Korea is still at war with North Korea. The two nations never signed a peace treaty after the Korean War ended in 1953. The agency that looks after BTS said the band members want to do their duty. It said: "It's the perfect time and the members of BTS are honoured to serve."

There was a lot of talk in Korea about BTS not doing military service. Many people feel that the band are too important to be taking a break to join the army. Many Koreans view them as national treasures. In 2020, Korea's government said the band could delay their military service until the age of 30. The oldest member, Jin, is currently 29 years old. BTS have brought a lot of worldwide attention to their country. They have also received a lot of praise for speaking out about mental health issues. South Korea's defence minister said it could be possible for the band to perform together while in the army. He said: "There could be a way to give them a chance to practice and perform together."

Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/music/2022/oct/17/bts-k-pop-members-military-service-south-korea>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-63282589>
<https://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20221017000727>

WARM-UPS

1. K-POP: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about K-pop. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

pop bands / army / boy bands / music / military / war / peace treaty / duty / serve / talk / important / national treasure / government / delay / praise / attention / chance

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. MILITARY SERVICE: Students A **strongly** believe everyone should do national service; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. SERVICE: How can we best be of service to our country? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How Useful?	Why?
Military service		
Cleaning rivers		
Caring for the aged		
Volunteer tour guide		
Language teacher		
First-aid volunteer		

5. ARMY: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "army". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. MUSIC: Rank these with your partner. Put the best music at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- K-pop
- Jazz
- Classical
- Folk
- Techno
- Rock
- Rap
- Heavy metal

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1. popular | a. Need for a particular reason or purpose. |
| 2. break | b. Fit and healthy. |
| 3. national | c. Liked by many people |
| 4. require | d. A responsibility to do something. |
| 5. able-bodied | e. A pause in work or during an activity or event. |
| 6. treaty | f. About the activity, history and culture of a country. |
| 7. duty | g. An agreement (often about peace) between two countries. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 8. national treasure | h. Carry out or complete an action, task, or function. |
| 9. delay | i. Someone or something that is really, really, really important to people in a country. |
| 10. currently | j. Make something happen at a time that is later than the time planned. |
| 11. attention | k. Express warm approval or admiration of. |
| 12. praise | l. Interest taken in someone or something. |
| 13. issues | m. At the present time. |
| 14. perform | n. Personal problems or difficulties. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221020-bts-military-service.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

1. The K-pop band BTS have formed an army. **T / F**
2. Healthy men in South Korea have to do two years national service. **T / F**
3. Men up to the age of 38 have to do national service in South Korea. **T / F**
4. The agency of BTS said it was not a good time for the band to serve. **T / F**
5. Everyone in South Korea thinks BTS should do military service. **T / F**
6. The oldest BTS member is in his late twenties. **T / F**
7. BTS have pleased people by speaking about mental health issues. **T / F**
8. BTS will not be able to perform together when they are in the army. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| 1. popular | a. play |
| 2. break | b. agreement |
| 3. require | c. ideal |
| 4. treaty | d. darlings |
| 5. perfect | e. well-liked |
| 6. talk | f. approval |
| 7. treasures | g. order |
| 8. praise | h. opportunity |
| 9. perform | i. rest |
| 10. chance | j. chatter |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. BTS will soon be taking | a. national treasures |
| 2. All able- | b. bodied men |
| 3. The two nations never signed | c. to serve |
| 4. the band members want to do | d. way |
| 5. the members of BTS are honoured | e. their military service |
| 6. Many Koreans view them as | f. a peace treaty |
| 7. the band could delay | g. a lot of praise |
| 8. a lot of worldwide | h. their duty |
| 9. They have also received | i. attention |
| 10. There could be a | j. a break from music |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221020-bts-military-service.html>

Members of one of the world's most (1) _____ pop bands will soon be in the army. The South Korean boy band BTS will soon be taking a (2) _____ from music. The seven band members will be joining the military to do two years of (3) _____ service. South Korea is one of the few countries in the world to (4) _____ men to do military service. All able-bodied men aged between 18 and 28 must serve about two years in the military. This is because technically, South Korea is still at (5) _____ with North Korea. The two nations never signed a peace (6) _____ after the Korean War ended in 1953. The agency that looks after BTS said the band members want to do their (7) _____. It said: "It's the (8) _____ time and the members of BTS are honoured to serve."

war
break
duty
national
perfect
popular
require
treaty

There was a lot of talk in Korea about BTS not doing military service. Many people (9) _____ that the band are too important to be taking a break to join the army. Many Koreans view them as national (10) _____. In 2020, Korea's government said the band could (11) _____ their military service until the age of 30. The oldest member, Jin, is (12) _____ 29 years old. BTS have brought a lot of worldwide (13) _____ to their country. They have also received a lot of (14) _____ for speaking out about mental health issues. South Korea's defence minister said it could be (15) _____ for the band to perform together while in the army. He said: "There could be a way to give them a (16) _____ to practice and perform together."

delay
attention
possible
feel
currently
chance
treasures
praise

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221020-bts-military-service.html>

- 1) Members of one of the world's most popular pop bands will soon be _____
 - a. in then army
 - b. in the army
 - c. in them army
 - d. in thee army
- 2) All able-bodied men aged between 18 and 28 must serve about two years _____
 - a. in the militia
 - b. in the mill itinerary
 - c. in the milling tree
 - d. in the military
- 3) The two nations never signed _____
 - a. at peace treaty
 - b. apiece treaty
 - c. a peace treaty
 - d. app ease treaty
- 4) The agency that looks after BTS said the band members want to _____
 - a. do their duty
 - b. have their duty
 - c. be their duty
 - d. due their duty
- 5) It's the perfect time and the members of BTS are _____
 - a. honoured to save
 - b. honoured to sieve
 - c. honoured to serve
 - d. honoured to service
- 6) Many people feel that the band are too important to be _____
 - a. taken a break
 - b. taking a break
 - c. taking the break
 - d. taking a brake
- 7) Many Koreans view them _____
 - a. as national treasures
 - b. as nationally treasures
 - c. as national treasure
 - d. as nationally treasure
- 8) The oldest member, Jin, is currently 29 years old. BTS have brought a lot _____
 - a. of worldly attention
 - b. of world width attention
 - c. of world widen attention
 - d. of worldwide attention
- 9) They have also received a _____
 - a. lot of prize
 - b. lot of plays
 - c. lot of praise
 - d. lot of please
- 10) There could be a way to give them a chance to practice _____
 - a. and perform together
 - b. and performs together
 - c. and preform together
 - d. and preforms together

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221020-bts-military-service.html>

Members of one of the world's (1) _____ bands will soon be in the army. The South Korean boy band BTS will soon be taking a break from music. The seven band members (2) _____ the military to do two years of national service. South Korea is one of the few countries in the world to (3) _____ do military service. All able-bodied men aged between 18 and 28 must serve about two years in the military. This is because technically, South Korea is (4) _____ with North Korea. The two nations never signed a peace treaty after the Korean War ended in 1953. The agency that looks after BTS said the band members want to (5) _____. It said: "It's the perfect time and the members of BTS are (6) _____."

There was a (7) _____ in Korea about BTS not doing military service. Many people feel that the band are too important to be (8) _____ to join the army. Many Koreans view them as national treasures. In 2020, Korea's government said the band (9) _____ military service until the age of 30. The oldest member, Jin, is currently 29 years old. BTS have brought a (10) _____ attention to their country. They have also received a lot (11) _____ speaking out about mental health issues. South Korea's defence minister said it could be possible for the band to perform together while in the army. He said: "There could be a way to give them a chance to (12) _____ together."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221020-bts-military-service.html>

1. What are BTS taking a break from?
2. For how long will BTS do military service?
3. How many countries require people to do military service?
4. When did the Korean War end?
5. How do BTS feel about serving?
6. What do many Koreans view BTS as?
7. How old is the oldest BTS member?
8. What issues did BTS talk about?
9. Who said BTS might be able to perform together in the army?
10. What could there be to give BTS a chance of performing together?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221020-bts-military-service.html>

- 1) What are BTS taking a break from?
 - a) music
 - b) performing
 - c) military service
 - d) lunch
- 2) For how long will BTS do military service?
 - a) six months
 - b) a year
 - c) about two years
 - d) 18 months
- 3) How many countries require people to do military service?
 - a) a dozen
 - b) a few
 - c) several
 - d) 17
- 4) When did the Korean War end?
 - a) 1952
 - b) 1955
 - c) 1954
 - d) 1953
- 5) How do BTS feel about serving?
 - a) honoured
 - b) happy
 - c) worried
 - d) terrified
- 6) What do many Koreans view BTS as?
 - a) the best band in the world
 - b) good dancers
 - c) essential
 - d) national treasures
- 7) How old is the oldest BTS member?
 - a) 28
 - b) 29
 - c) 26
 - d) 24
- 8) What issues did BTS talk about?
 - a) bad words in song lyrics
 - b) rap
 - c) climate change
 - d) mental health issues
- 9) Who said BTS might be able to perform together in the army?
 - a) South Korea's president
 - b) an army general
 - c) South Korea's defence minister
 - d) a soldier
- 10) What could there be to give BTS a chance of performing together?
 - a) a stadium
 - b) a way
 - c) money
 - d) a concert

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221020-bts-military-service.html>

Role A – Jazz

You think jazz is the best music genre. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their genres. Also, tell the others which is the least enjoyable of these (and why): classical, rap or rock.

Role B – Classical

You think classical is the best music genre. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their genres. Also, tell the others which is the least enjoyable of these (and why): jazz, rap or rock.

Role C – Rap

You think rap is the best music genre. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their genres. Also, tell the others which is the least enjoyable of these (and why): classical, jazz or rock.

Role D – Rock

You think rock is the best music genre. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their genres. Also, tell the others which is the least enjoyable of these (and why): classical, rap or jazz.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221020-bts-military-service.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'military' and 'service'.

military	service

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you could like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• popular• break• serve• technically• signed• time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• talk• important• delay• praise• possible• chance
---	---

MILITARY SERVICE SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221020-bts-military-service.html>

Write five GOOD questions about military service in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

MILITARY SERVICE DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'military'?
3. What do you think of military service?
4. What do you know about BTS?
5. Should stars like BTS be allowed to avoid military service?
6. What do you think of boy bands?
7. What are the good and bad things about military service?
8. What do you think of working in the military?
9. Why are BTS so popular worldwide?
10. What advice do you have for the members of BTS?

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MILITARY SERVICE DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'service'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. Why do countries ask people to do military service?
15. What do you think of your country's military?
16. How can military service help to improve young people?
17. Who are your favourite music stars?
18. How might military service change the songs of BTS?
19. How long should military service be?
20. What questions could you like to ask BTS?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221020-bts-military-service.html>

Members of one of the world's most (1) _____ pop bands will soon be in the army. The South Korean boy band BTS will soon be (2) _____ a break from music. The seven band members will be joining the military to do two years of national service. South Korea is one of the few countries in the world to (3) _____ men to do military service. All able-bodied men aged between 18 and 28 must serve about two years in the military. This is because technically, South Korea is still (4) _____ war with North Korea. The two nations never (5) _____ a peace treaty after the Korean War ended in 1953. The agency that looks after BTS said the band members want to do their duty. It said: "It's the perfect time and the members of BTS are honoured to (6) _____."

There was a lot of (7) _____ in Korea about BTS not doing military service. Many people feel that the band are too important to be taking a break to join the army. Many Koreans view them as national (8) _____. In 2020, Korea's government said the band could delay their military service until the age of 30. The oldest member, Jin, is (9) _____ 29 years old. BTS have brought a lot of worldwide attention to their country. They have also received a lot of (10) _____ for speaking out about mental health issues. South Korea's defence minister said it could be possible for the band to perform together (11) _____ in the army. He said: "There could (12) _____ a way to give them a chance to practice and perform together."

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) populate | (b) poplar | (c) popular | (d) polar |
| 2. | (a) taking | (b) doing | (c) breaking | (d) banding |
| 3. | (a) require | (b) inquire | (c) enquire | (d) esquire |
| 4. | (a) at | (b) on | (c) of | (d) by |
| 5. | (a) sang | (b) signed | (c) singed | (d) singing |
| 6. | (a) strive | (b) sieve | (c) save | (d) serve |
| 7. | (a) speak | (b) voice | (c) talk | (d) whisper |
| 8. | (a) spoils | (b) loot | (c) jewellery | (d) treasures |
| 9. | (a) currently | (b) correctly | (c) currency | (d) covertly |
| 10. | (a) praise | (b) answer | (c) fitness | (d) brains |
| 11. | (a) for | (b) while | (c) that | (d) so |
| 12. | (a) have | (b) do | (c) be | (d) take |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221020-bts-military-service.html>

Paragraph 1

1. the world's most lprpaou pop bands
2. two years of ntolaia service
3. iruerge men to do military service
4. ahnictely, South Korea is still at war
5. signed a peace ateytr
6. BTS are dnuorhoe to serve

Paragraph 2

7. national eetrussa
8. edyla their military service
9. a lot of worldwide iotetnant
10. received a lot of priesa
11. mental health sisesu
12. practice and rfeporm together

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221020-bts-military-service.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () 29 years old. BTS have brought a lot of worldwide attention to their country. They have also received a lot
- () want to do their duty. It said: "It's the perfect time and the members of BTS are honoured to serve."
- () government said the band could delay their military service until the age of 30. The oldest member, Jin, is currently
- () of praise for speaking out about mental health issues. South Korea's defence
- (**1**) Members of one of the world's most popular pop bands will soon be in the army. The South Korean boy band BTS will soon be
- () taking a break from music. The seven band members will be joining the military to do two
- () minister said it could be possible for the band to perform together while in the army. He said: "There could
- () important to be taking a break to join the army. Many Koreans view them as national treasures. In 2020, Korea's
- () be a way to give them a chance to practice and perform together."
- () do military service. All able-bodied men aged between 18 and 28 must serve about two years
- () There was a lot of talk in Korea about BTS not doing military service. Many people feel that the band are too
- () in the military. This is because technically, South Korea is still at war with North Korea. The two nations never signed
- () years of national service. South Korea is one of the few countries in the world to require men to
- () a peace treaty after the Korean War ended in 1953. The agency that looks after BTS said the band members

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221020-bts-military-service.html>

1. of the most pop world's popular One bands .
2. seven members join will the band military . The
3. war . at Korea Technically, South is still
4. peace a The nations two treaty . never signed
5. duty . want their to members do band The
6. are the too Many feel people band important .
7. national view Koreans them Many as treasures .
8. the of age Delay until 30 . military service
9. praise . received They also of have lot a
10. could be to for possible perform . them It

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221020-bts-military-service.html>

Members of one of the world's most *popular / populate* pop bands will soon be in the army. The South Korean boy band BTS will soon be taking a *broke / break* from music. The seven band members will be *joining / joint* the military to do two years of national service. South Korea is one of the *several / few* countries in the world to require men to *be / do* military service. All able-bodied men aged between 18 and 28 must *serve / service* about two years in the military. This is because *technical / technically*, South Korea is still *to / at* war with North Korea. The two nations never signed a peace treaty after the Korean War ended *in / on* 1953. The agency that looks after BTS said the band members want to do their *ditty / duty*. It said: "It's the perfect time and the members of BTS are honoured to serve."

There was a lot of *speak / talk* in Korea about BTS not doing military service. Many people feel that the band are *too / much* important to be taking a break to join *an / the* army. Many Koreans view them as national *jewellery / treasures*. In 2020, Korea's government said the band could *delay / relay* their military service until the *age / old* of 30. The oldest member, Jin, is currently 29 years old. BTS have brought a lot of worldwide *attentive / attention* to their country. They have also received a lot of praise *at / for* speaking out about mental health issues. South Korea's defence minister said it could be *possible / possibly* for the band to perform together while in the army. He said: "There could be a way to give them a chance to practice and *performance / perform* together."

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct. Look up the definition of new words.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221020-bts-military-service.html>

Memb_rs _f _n_ _f th_ w_rld's m_st p_p_l_r p_p b_nds
w_ll s__n b_ _n th_ _rmy. Th_ S__th K_r__n b_y
b_nd BTS w_ll s__n b_ t_k_ng _ br__k fr_m m_s_c.
Th_ s_v_n b_nd m_mb_rs w_ll b_ j__n_ng th_ m_l_t_ry
t_ d_ tw_ y__rs' _f n_t__n_l s_rv_c_. S__th K_r__ _s
n _f th_ f_w c__ntr__s _n th_ w_rld t_ r_q__r_
m_n t_ d_ m_l_t_ry s_rv_c_. _ll _bl_-b_d__d m_n _g_d
b_tw__n 18 _nd 28 m_st s_rv_ _b__t tw_ y__rs _n
th_ m_l_t_ry. Th_s _s b_c__s_ t_chn_c_lly, S__th K_r__
_s st_ll _t w_r w_th N_rth K_r__. Th_ tw_ n_t__ns
n_v_r s_gn_d _ p__c_ tr__ty _ft_r th_ K_r__n W_r
_nd_d _n 1953. Th_ _g_ncy th_t l__ks _ft_r BTS s__d
th_ b_nd m_mb_rs w_nt t_ d_ th__r d_ty. _t s__d:
"t's th_ p_rf_ct t_m_ _nd th_ m_mb_rs _f BTS _r_
h_n__r_d t_ s_rv_."

Th_r_ w_s _ l_t _f t_lk _n K_r__ _b__t BTS n_t
d__ng m_l_t_ry s_rv_c_. M_ny p__pl_ f__l th_t th_
b_nd _r_ t__ _mp_r_t_n_t t_ b_ t_k_ng _ br__k t_ j__n
th_ _rmy. M_ny K_r__ns v__w th_m _s n_t__n_l
tr__s_r_s. _n 2020, K_r__'s g_v_rnm_nt s__d th_ b_nd
c__ld d_l_y th__r m_l_t_ry s_rv_c_ _nt_l th_ _g_ _f
30. Th_ _ld_st m_mb_r, J_n, _s c_rr_ntly 29 y__rs
_ld. BTS h_v_ br__ght _ l_t _f w_rldw_d_ _tt_n_t__n t_
th__r c__ntry. Th_y h_v_ _ls_ r_c__v_d _ l_t _f
pr__s_ f_r sp__k_ng __t _b__t m_nt_l h__lth _ss__s.
S__th K_r__'s d_f_nc_ m_n_st_r s__d _t c__ld b_
p_ss_bl_ f_r th_ b_nd t_ p_rf_rm t_g_th_r wh_l_ _n
th_ _rmy. H_ s__d: "Th_r_ c__ld b_ _ w_y t_ g_v_
th_m _ ch_nc_ t_ pr_ct_c_ _nd p_rf_rm t_g_th_r."

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221020-bts-military-service.html>

members of one of the worlds most popular pop bands will soon be in the army the south korean boy band bts will soon be taking a break from music the seven band members will be joining the military to do two years of national service south korea is one of the few countries in the world to require men to do military service all ablebodied men aged between 18 and 28 must serve about two years in the military this is because technically south korea is still at war with north korea the two nations never signed a peace treaty after the korean war ended in 1953 the agency that looks after bts said the band members want to do their duty it said its the perfect time and the members of bts are honoured to serve

there was a lot of talk in korea about bts not doing military service many people feel that the band are too important to be taking a break to join the army many koreans view them as national treasures in 2020 koreas government said the band could delay their military service until the age of 30 the oldest member jin is currently 29 years old bts have brought a lot of worldwide attention to their country they have also received a lot of praise for speaking out about mental health issues south koreas defence minister said it could be possible for the band to perform together while in the army he said there could be a way to give them a chance to practice and perform together

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2210/221020-bts-military-service.html>

Members of one of the world's most popular pop bands will soon be in the army. The South Korean boy band BTS will soon be taking a break from music. These seven band members will be joining the military to do two years of national service. South Korea is one of the few countries in the world to require men to do military service. All able-bodied men aged between 18 and 28 must serve about two years in the military. This is because technically, South Korea is still at war with North Korea. The two nations never signed a peace treaty after the Korean War ended in 1953. The agency that looks after BTS said the band members want to do their duty. It said: "It's the perfect time and the members of BTS are honoured to serve." There was a lot of talk in Korea about BTS not doing military service. Many people feel that the band are too important to be taking a break to join the army. Many Koreans view them as national treasures. In 2020, Korea's government said the band could delay their military service until the age of 30. The oldest member, Jin, is currently 29 years old. BTS have brought a lot of worldwide attention to their country. They have also received a lot of praise for speaking out about mental health issues. South Korea's defence ministers said it could be possible for the band to perform together while in the army. He said: "There could be a way to give them a chance to practice and perform together."

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. BOY BANDS: Make a poster about boy bands. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. MILITARY SERVICE: Write a magazine article about all young people having to do military service. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on military service. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your opinions on military service. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. c 2. e 3. f 4. a 5. b 6. g 7. d
8. i 9. j 10. m 11. l 12. k 13. n 14. h

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F 2 T 3 F 4 F 5 F 6 T 7 T 8 F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. e	2. i	3. g	4. b	5. c
6. j	7. d	8. f	9. a	10. h

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Music
2. About two years
3. A few
4. 1953
5. Honoured
6. National treasures
7. 29
8. Mental health issues
9. South Korea's defence minister
10. A way

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. One of the world's most popular pop bands.
2. The seven band members will join the military.
3. Technically, South Korea is still at war.
4. The two nations never signed a peace treaty.
5. The band members want to do their duty.
6. Many people feel the band are too important.
7. Many Koreans view them as national treasures.
8. Delay military service until the age of 30.
9. They have also received a lot of praise.
10. It could be possible for them to perform.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. a 2. c 3. b 4. d 5. a 6. d 7. b 8. d 9. c 10. b

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)